

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request Reference FoI/24/132
IT Infrastructure

Information Requested:

Can you please provide an update on the following 4 questions regarding your Trust's Infrastructure?

1. For each element of IT infrastructure below, please provide the requested details:	Main provider	Annual spend 2022-2023	Contract end date	Additional notes
Desktop management				
Networking				
Data Centre				
Server management				
IT Security				
Email and collaboration				
Processing and computer capacity				

2. For each of the elements below, please provide details about your cloud provider:	Main provider	Contract end date	Additional notes
Data storage			
Networking			
Back-up and archive			
Application databases			
Big Data analytics databases			
Email and collaboration			
Processing and computer capacity			

3: For each element detailed below, how does your organisation manage its data storage?	On premises	Off premises	Main supplier	Annual spend 2022-2023	Contract end date	Additional notes

In-house data centre						
DEFINITION: Physical or virtual servers that are connected internally and externally through networking and communication equipment to store, transfer and access digital information						
Shared service						
DEFINITION: The consolidation of business operations that are used by multiple parts of the same organization.						
Data Storage Management						
DEFINITION: The management of various data storage methods used in the Trust						
Other (please specify)						

4: For each of the network supply systems listed below, please provide the requested details:	Main provider	Annual spend 2022-2023	Contract end date	Additional notes
Data network (broadband)				
DEFINITION: Broadband is the actual internet connection afforded by your internet service provider (ISP), which you can access directly via a LAN or ethernet connection between your modem and device				
WiFi (hardware)				
DEFINITION: Wifi is a wireless connection between multiple devices and your router, and just one of the ways you can access the internet				
CoIN (if applicable) - Community of Interest Network				
WAN (Wide Area Network)				
DEFINITION: WANs connect users and applications in geographically dispersed locations				

Other (please specify)				
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Response Details:

Cardiff and Vale University Health Board (the UHB) is withholding this information, relying on section 31(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ('the prevention or detection of crime'). Specifically, the UHB believes that disclosing details regarding its ICT infrastructure, or support of that infrastructure, would be likely to prejudice the prevention of crime, particularly cybercrime. As this is a qualified exemption, the UHB is required to complete a public interest test in deciding whether it is in the public's interest to withhold or disclose the information.

In favour of disclosure: The UHB recognises there is a public interest in transparency and in public authorities demonstrating that their systems effectively protect personal data.

Against disclosure: There is a very strong public interest in protecting the extremely sensitive data held by the UHB. Cybersecurity and the associated risk of cyberattacks represent a rapidly evolving arena that becomes more complex and dangerous with time. Releasing details of the UHB's ICT infrastructure into the public domain significantly reduces its capacity to manage this threat to the stated public interest by exposing potential vulnerabilities.

Decision: The UHB considers that the public interest in withholding the information is significantly greater than any interest there may be in disclosing it and potentially exposing sensitive personal data to an increased level of risk. The UHB strongly believes that posing additional unnecessary risk to the UHB, and consequently patient care and safety, would be viewed as an unacceptable risk by the public. Whilst the UHB acknowledges a public interest in providing assurances of effective protection of personal data, it believes the most effective means of increasing public confidence in data protection is to successfully protect the data itself. The UHB considers its responsibility to protect the personal data of patients and staff to be of the highest importance. It was therefore decided that it is not in the public's interest to disclose this information.